

NEW-YORK DAILY TRIBUNE. MONDAY, FEBRUARY 27, 1865.

XXXVIII CONGRESS—Second Session.

SENATE.—WASHINGTON, Feb. 25, 1865.

SENATOR WILLET.

Mr. VAN WINKLE (West Va.) presented the credentials of Wakeman P. Wiley, Senator elect from West Virginia, from the 4th of March, 1863, for the term of six years, which were read and filed.

NAVAL SOLICITOR AND JUDGE-ADVOCATE.

The bill to create the office of Solicitor and Judge-Advocate of the Navy Department was then taken up.

Mr. THOMAS (D.L.) spoke against it, and Mr. GANNON (Iowa) explained its provisions and advocated it as a necessity, after which it was passed.

ART IN THE SENATE.

Mr. CONKLIN (N.Y.) called up the House resolution to adjourn William H. Powell to paint a picture for the Capitol, at a cost not to exceed \$25,000.

Mr. SUMNER (Mass.) was sorry to feel compelled to oppose this measure. There was a time to weep and a time to laugh, and a time to postpone the fine arts. This was no time to spend \$25,000 for the purchase of a picture. Our National debt was accumulating. Our soldiers were unpaid. Our citizens were being taxed to the uttermost by the Government in its struggle with the Rebellion.

The resolution was adopted.

THE OLD CAPITOL PRISON.

Mr. GANNON (Ohio) offered a resolution, which was passed, directing the Postmaster General to return to the House the original bill, which had been passed prohibiting persons of color from leaving the District of Columbia without a pass, and if so, whether the said order or regulation shall be still in force, and in that case, the Secretary of War furnishes a copy of the order to the House with an explanation or reason for making the distinction.

The resolution was adopted.

THE LOUISIANA STATE GOVERNMENT.

Mr. CHANDLER (Mich.) from the Committee on Commerce, reported the House bill to provide that in the measurement of the tonnage of ships, store-rooms and packing rooms above the lower deck shall not be included, which was passed.

Mr. FOSTER (Conn.) moved that the Senate take recess at 4 until 7 p.m., the evening session to be devoted to the consideration of the amendment.

Mr. SCHENCK (Md.) also opposed the motion, because he wished to press the Louisiana question to a vote as soon as possible. He called for a division of the question before the Senate first on taking the recess, and then on making the Bankrupt bill the special order.

The motion to take a recess prevailed.

The question of making the Bankrupt bill the special order was decided in the negative—yeas, 15; nays, 24.

THE LOUISIANA STATE GOVERNMENT.

Mr. CHANDLER (Mich.) from the Committee on State Government, reported the bill to take up.

Mr. SUMNER offered the following as a substitute for the resolution of the Judiciary Committee, which was ordered to be printed:

Resolved, That it is the duty of the United States, at the earliest practical moment consistent with the common defense and the general welfare, to establish, by act of Congress, a separate and distinct government for the Southern States, which have been made by the existing rebellion, and that to the full extent of their power, shall fit the requirements of the Constitution, that the United States shall guarantee to every state in this Union a responsible form of government.

Mr. SCHENCK, in his report, argued that the Constitution expresses rights on the part of the United States, and not on individuals, nor classes of individuals, nor any military commander, nor executive officer, and cannot be intended to apply to any such person, acting, it may be, for an official cause.

Mr. STEPHENS (S.C.) argued that the gentleman who has written an acceptable substitute for three years, shall be exempted from draft for that period. [Persons putting in substitutes for three years were exempted for only one year.]

The amendment was agreed to.

Mr. SCHENCK offered an amendment, that when it is shown by a principal fact that a man is fit for military service, the government shall take him, drafted for one year, who furnishes an acceptable substitute for three years, shall be exempted from draft for that period. [Persons putting in substitutes for three years were exempted for only one year.]

Mr. STEPHENS opposed the amendment, regarding it as substance the same as that rejected by the House yesterday. The Board of Enrollment examined all substitutes, and their determination should be conclusive.

Mr. THAYER (Penn.) also opposed the amendment.

Mr. SCHENCK said it was different from the amendment rejected yesterday, and expressed his ground, that, so far as the gentleman from Pennsylvania, (Thayer), who was a gentleman, could take the ground, that, so far as the Government is concerned, it should not be retained, even against fraud.

Mr. STEPHENS replied that nothing was more sophistical than the view of the gentleman concerning his remarks. Such a construction could only exist in the imagination of the gentleman.

Mr. O'NEAL (N.Y.) saw no reason for enacting a new law, as there was already provision for guarding against the evils which the amendment proposed to remedy; but apart from this, the amendment would not meet the effect of the present opportunity from the Government to draft men who put in a substitute. He concluded with disapprobation, some remarks made by Mr. Schenck, reflecting on the majority of the Democratic side.

Mr. SCHENCK arose and repeated that he said the majority on that side voted against all amendments, and would vote against the bill itself. They did not want a draft.

Mr. PLUMPTREY (Wis.) asked whether that was the only impugning the gentleman (Schenck) cast on the Democratic party.

Mr. SCHENCK replied that the gentleman would ascertain from the report of remarks.

Mr. O'NEAL, remaining, remarked that the gentleman (Schenck) not only said the majority of the Democratic members would vote against the bill, but that the Democratic party had arrayed themselves against the Government with almost a united front.

Mr. THAYER—I did say so, and say it yet.

Mr. KALDENBERG (Md.) from his seat, elicited—It is false and I will tell the gentleman [Schenck] so here or elsewhere.

When the question had somewhat subsided,

Mr. O'NEAL, resuming his remarks said: It is not the first time that the gentleman from Ohio (Schenck) had such language against the Democratic party, with which he acted.

Mr. SCHENCK, in his seat, exclaimed: You had better get out of that company.

Mr. O'NEAL again protested against such language being applied to the party with which he acted. It is not correct in fact. He objected to it, and for the further reason that it was giving aid and comfort to the enemy.

Mr. O'NEAL—That is true.

Mr. SCHENCK—When such language as that, which had been uttered by the gentleman (Schenck) reached the Southern States, the inference would be that the North was divided.

Mr. O'NEAL, in his seat, remarked—“not much.”

Mr. O'NEAL, and that the language of the gentleman implied that more than half the Democrats of the country, and the enemies of the Government. Now, he wanted no man to go forth to the enemies of the country, and the (Schenck) had no objection in saying that the Democratic party from the beginning of the war had been extremely solicitous to put down the Rebels.

He hoped such strictures had been uttered here for the last time.

Mr. HOWARD (Md.) spoke at length against the proposition of the Judiciary Committee, arguing that the State Government of Louisiana was the government of a fraction of the people of that State, and would not exist if not sustained by military power.

Mr. MCGOWAN (Md.) took the floor at the conclusion of Mr. Howard's speech, and delivered a lengthy address in favor of the resolution as it came from the Committee on the Judiciary.

At 4 p.m. the Senate adjourned.

EVERYTHING.

CLAIMS FOR DAMAGES.

Mr. HENDRICKS called up a resolution to pay Colb & Co. of Indiana, for several large loads of hay destroyed by military authority during the Morgan raid, to prevent Morgan from using the horses to cross the Ohio River.

Mr. SHERMAN said this was only one of a thousand claims of similar kind which had been submitted to the State court before the Senate. There had been hundreds of horses taken from the people of Ohio during that raid. It would be unjust to take up this single case without providing for thousands of others which the Government was not prepared to adjust.

Mr. HOWARD (Md.) was of the same opinion as Mr. Sherman.

Mr. FOSTER moved to refer the case to the Court of Claims.

THE LOUISIANA QUESTION.

Mr. THOMAS moved to postpone the above subject and take up the Louisiana question.

Mr. SUMNER offered an amendment to the resolution of the Judiciary Committee, as follows:

Resolved, That this shall not take effect upon the fundamental conditions that within the State there shall be equal protection of the laws, or upon the right of trial by jury, but shall be limited to the State Government by a solemn public act, and shall remain in effect until the adoption of a constitution which gives to the people of the State the same rights and immunities which the people of the Southern States now enjoy.

Without further consideration of the subject, the House adjourned.

Secretary of War to inform the House whether any Rebel prisoners of war at Rock Island, Ill., have been enlisted into our service and credited to the quotas of one or more States; if so, how many have enlisted and whether the said prisoners are still under guard at Rock Island.

Mr. WILSON (Iowa) suggested that the inquiry be made general.

Mr. PIKE had no objection to this.

Mr. GANNON (N.Y.) asked whether bounties had been paid to such prisoners.

Mr. PIKE replied he understood bounties had been paid to men who are still under guard.

The resolution having been made general in its scope of inquiry, was passed.

COLORED PERSONS IN THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA.

Mr. SCHENCK (Md.) offered a resolution, which was passed, directing the Postmaster General to return to the House the original bill, which had been passed prohibiting persons of color from leaving the District of Columbia without a pass, and if so, whether the said order or regulation shall be still in force, and in that case, the Secretary of War furnishes a copy of the order to the House with an explanation or reason for making the distinction.

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Theaters, Etc.

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